







The International Year of Astronomy 2009 (IYA 2009) is an extraordinary global celebration of astronomy, commemorating two highly significant contributions to modern astronomy and modern scientific thinking which happened 400 years ago - namely in 1609:

> the 400th anniversary of the publication of Johannes Kepler's revolutionary work "Astronomia Nova" and • the first astronomical discoveries with a telescope by Galileo Galilei

Both, Keplers laws of planetary motion and Galileis astronomical discoveries undoubtedly initiated the modern approach in astronomy and scientific thinking. Kepler and Galilei have achieved with their works a contribution of foundation. Generations of researchers were able to build up of that - including today's spaceflight. Keplers "Astronomia Nova" work has changed the theory of planetary motion fundamentally as well as the way to explore the mechanics of celestial movement. For the first time in history of astronomy, a uniform theory for all orbits of the planets was developed. Also mankinds ancient dream to fly to the moon would never have been realized in the 20th century without Kepler's achievements in science. NASA's "Kepler Mission-A Search for Habitable Planets", which will be launched in 2009, may thus be seen as a landmark in the history of modern astronomy to pay tribute to Kepler's great legacy. The Federal Government of Germany will publish in 2009 a Commemorative Kepler Medal (10 €) and a Special Kepler Stamp. Jointly the Kepler-Society, the University Stuttgart and the University Tübingen are preparing an extensive contribution to the IYA 2009 aiming to support the efforts to recognize the impact of astronomy on our daily lives. The title of the anniversary programme is:

400 years of modern astronomy

- 1609: Keplers "Astronomia Nova" and Galileis first Telescope observations -

jointly organized by the Kepler Society, University of Stuttgart and University of Tübingen

Summary of the Anniversary Programme Special Anniversary Lectures:

Stuttgart, König-Karl-Halle, Haus der Wirtschaft, March, 20th, 2009

Musical Introduction

Speeches and Greetings

Federal Government of Germany State government of Baden-Württemberg

Presidents of the Universities of Tübingen and Stuttgart

Chairman of the Kepler Society

Presentation of the Commemorative Kepler Medal and Kepler Stamp

Grant of the Kepler Awards 2009 (to students of Kepler-High-Schools in the EU)

Keynote Speech:

"From Kepler to the Gravitational Wave Astronomy"

Prof. Dr. Jörn Wilms, University Erlangen-Nürnberg Musical Closing and Gala

II. Special Anniversary Lectures (details see aside)

University of Tübingen, Audi max, Kupferbau, April – July 2009

III. Scientific Colloquium on the Historical Significance

of Keplers and Galileis Contributions to Astronomy

University of Tübingen or Weil der Stadt, May 2009

IV. Exhibition of First Editions of Keplers Printings

enriched with letters from and to Johannes Kepler State Library of Württemberg, Stuttgart, Sept. 15th - Nov. 15th, 2009

Exhibition "Kepler and Posterity"

City-Museum of Weil der Stadt, Opening: May, 04th, 2009

VI. The Flying Observatory SOFIA

Exhibition and Lectures in the Carl-Zeiss-Planetarium Stuttgart German SOFIA Institute, University of Stuttgart

VII. Space-Flight Exhibition

"The New Image of Neighbour Mars"

- what Kepler would love to have seen -

German Aerospace Center (DLR), in the Helmholtz-Association City Hall of Sindelfingen, March 24th – April 30th, 2009

VIII. Premiere of the new Theatre Play

"Johannes Kepler – against all resistances"

Stuttgart Theatre "Your Theatre – the Theatre on Demand " in collaboration with the Kepler Society

IX. Exhibition of Special Stamps

"Kepler, Astronomy and Space-Flight"

City Hall of Weil der Stadt, March 21th - May 15th 2009

X. Flight with the Spacecraft "Somnia" to Mars

Kinderuni Weil der Stadt

For children between 4-12 years, 10th May – 28 June 2009

Four Stations Astro Tour

Weil der Stadt

XI. Closing Ceremony

University of Stuttgart or Haus der Wirtschaft, Stuttgart, Nov. 13th, 2009

"400 years of Modern Astronomy"

University of Tübingen, Summer Semester 2009

Joint lectures of the University of Tübingen, Kepler Society and University of Stuttgart

The arc will be stretched from the historical beginnings of modern astronomy up to recent findings and developments in Astronomy, Astrophysics and Astronautics.

28th April 2009 Kepler and Galilei, the fathers of the new celestial physics

Prof. Dr. Fritz Krafft University of Marburg

05th May 2009 In Space Kepler takes over control

Prof. Dr. Ernst Messerschmid University of Stuttgart

Galilei's Sidereus Nuncius: the first telescopic view to the 12th May2009 starry sky - Birth of the modern telescope astronomy

Prof. Dr. Andrea Santangelo University of Tübingen

19th May 2009 Super Eyes look into Space

Prof. Dr. Hans-Walter Rix

Max-Planck-Institute for Astronomy, Heidelberg

26th May 2009 Formation and Development of the Universe

Prof. Dr. Jörn Wilms

University of Erlangen-Nürnberg

Creation from "Nothing" or "Continuous" Creation? 09th June 2009

16th June 2009 Life and Death of Stars

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Kippenhahn University of Göttingen

23th June 2009 Black Holes

Dr. Ute Kraus University of Tübingen

Are we alone in the Universe? 30th June 2009

> Prof. Dr. Willy Benz University of Bern

X- Ray Astronomy: Hot Spots in the Sky 07th July 2009

Prof. Dr. Günther Hasinger

Max-Planck-Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics, Garching

Astronomy of Gravitational Waves 14th July 2009

> Prof. Dr. Karsten Danzmann University of Hannover